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Mexborough Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for the Year

1956





MEXBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT



J. A. W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H,
Medical Officer of Health

H. BREARLEY, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

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MEXBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1956

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor K. LEE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council :

Councillor G. W. HURST

Chairman of the Public Health Committee :

Councillor W. H. F. DIXON

Councillors :

Mrs. K. GRANT	J. SCHOFIELD
Mrs. D. LEACH	C. SENIOR
M. DOUGHTY	H. TRICKETT
J. E. FISHER	D. WALTON
W. GARBUZZ	J. C. WILLETS
G. M. HANSON, C.C.	S. WORTH
C. P. LEE	E. YOUNG
T. ROEBUCK	

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P R E F A C E

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Mexborough.

June, 1957.

To the Minister of Health and
To the Chairman and Members of
The Mexborough Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1956, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 19/56, dated 11th December, 1956.

Since February, 1955, Dr. B. R. A. Demaine has been acting as Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer, Division 30, and I commenced my duties on the 17th September, 1956.

The period of this Report covers the last 9 months of Dr. Demaine's tenure of office, and I desire to thank her for her conscientious hard work during her Medical Officership and for her help and wholehearted co-operation since I succeeded her.

This year's vital statistics show that the population has dropped by 160 from last year's figure of 18,870, and there has been a rise in the Birth Rate, Crude Death Rate, Infant Mortality, and Pulmonary Tuberculosis case incidence. As was the case last year, no Maternal Deaths occurred in Mexborough, but the Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate and the Stillbirth Rate both fell to their lowest recorded figures.

This year is the commencement of the second 10 year period following the end of world war II. During the period 1946 to 55, the 5 year averages show a fall in the General, Infant, and Maternal Death Rates; a slow population decline, and a considerable fall in the Birth Rate. In spite of improved living conditions it is disappointing to report that the 5 year average rate for Stillbirths and Pulmonary Tuberculosis case incidence and Deaths are static.

In 1951, the middle year of the first post-war decade, the National Census was taken and it enumerated 18,972 persons, 9,606 males and 9,366 females, living as 5,429 separate

households in 24,409 rooms, comprising 5,261 separate dwellings in the Urban District.

Since the previous Census in 1931, the population had decreased by 111, but there were 1,604 more families living in the Urban District which had not changed in size since the 1911 Census. The number of inhabited houses increased by 1,575 in the intercensal period 1931 to 51. The percentage of families sharing a dwelling fell from 36% in 1931 to 30% ; that of families living at a density of more than 2 persons per room from 2·93 to 1·7 ; and that of families living in separate dwellings of one or two rooms from 6·4 to 1·4.

During 1956, the coming into use of a vaccine for protection against anterior Poliomyelitis and the Clean Air Act were two important developments in Public Health practice. 949 children, 404 boys and 545 girls between the ages of 2 years and 9 years registered for vaccination against Poliomyelitis. This represents 40 per cent of all children in the Urban District in this age group. Before vaccination ceased at the end of June, 119 children had been given protection against the disease and a further 37 received 2 injections in the Autumn and before the end of the year.

The Clean Air Act became Law in October, and if smokeless zones are to be set up within a reasonable time, mining areas such as the Urban District will need to press for a national solution of the problem of home coal. The use of coal as a domestic fuel is out-moded. From the National view-point the best use which can be made of the nation's coal resources is by the Chemist because of its valuable by-products and not by the housewife as a wasteful fuel.

I wish to express my thanks to my Chairman, Members of the Committees, Officials of the Council and my staff in the Health Department and the Divisional Office, for their understanding and co-operation since my appointment.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. W. REID,
Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the Mexborough Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

The year has been a memorable one in many respects, particularly because of the progress made in the Slum Clearance Programme. Rehousing of the occupants of the Clayfield Road and Wragby Row districts commenced and a large area of 50 houses in Wath Road was represented as a Clearance Area. This was the first time since 1939 that the Council had been able to see positive results in this field. Attention was also given to the repairing of other houses, although it was realised that only first aid repairs could be given to sub-standard property which would be dealt with under the Five Year Slum Clearance Programme. One aspect of housing which may have to be considered is the future of the property fast falling into neglect, the owner of which is not in a position to maintain it satisfactorily. It was also noted that damage to houses from subsidence increased.

The introduction of the Clean Air Act, 1956 marked a new attempt to eradicate Atmospheric Pollution. The Mexborough Urban area is one which suffers greatly from this form of Pollution, both from industrial and domestic sources, and the situation of the Town in the Don Valley places it in the path of prevailing winds which carry pollution from outside sources. The new Act is designed to come into operation in stages and is designed to deal with smoke emissions from all types of chimneys i.e. from dwellinghouses as well as from industrial plants. It is not envisaged that there will be much improvement in this District immediately, because of big industrial developments and the widespread practice of burning raw coal in the domestic grate. Will the National Coal Board agree to supply smokeless fuels in place of raw coal ?

The water supply to the Urban District is now abundant and pure but the great problem of the Sewerage and Sewage Works of the Town is one which will have to be considered very soon. The Sewerage Works is out of date and inadequate and the major part of the sewerage system was laid before the water carriage system was introduced.

By giving more supervision to the Refuse Collection Service, more efficient working was obtained. The refuse of your area is one of the heaviest of the country and approximately 60—70 tons a day are tipped.

Attention was also given to Food Shops in the Town under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 and it was found that the Food Traders were quite eager to co-operate. Every animal slaughtered for human consumption at the two private slaughterhouses in the Town were inspected post mortem.

During the year an Act was passed to change the designation of Sanitary Inspector to Public Health Inspector. This change was one of several recommendations made in a report by a Government-appointed Working Party on the Recruitment, Training and Qualifications of Sanitary Inspectors.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support and the members of the staff in the Department for their keenness and diligence during the year.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. BREARLEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION "A"

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) General Statistics

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,452
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population Mid-1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,710
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1956								5,444
Population density (persons per house)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3·43
House density (houses per acre)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3·75
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£134,295
Net product of 1d. rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£475
Rainfall for the year in inches	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24·7
Number of days on which rain fell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Mean temperature (degrees fahrenheit)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48·66

(b) Physical and Social Conditions

Mexborough lies on the North bank of the River Don and along the Southern slope of a hill which rises to a maximum height of 185 ft. above the ordnance datum line. It is a town of old foundations. There was a castle here which commanded a ford across the Don before the coming of the Saxons, and the town is mentioned in the Domesday Book where it is recorded as having a mill.

The town grew rapidly in the early 19th century, and the population of 403 in 1811 had more than doubled by 1821. At that time, it is known that there were several coal pits, an earthenware pottery and a stone quarry.

The growth of the glassworks (now demolished), and the sinking of deep coal mines in adjacent villages gave further opportunities for employment which resulted in the rapid growth of the town.

The Registrar's estimate of resident population for mid-1956, shows a decrease of 160 on the estimate for mid-1955, and a decrease of 310 compared with the year 1954. The outward movement of population from the town has, of recent years, counterbalanced the natural increase, and the population is fairly static. The proportion of the over 65 age group rose

from 4·9% to 8·4% between the years 1931 and 1947. The National average is 10·9%. In the working age groups there are more people in the younger age groups than the National average, and almost the same percentage as the National average in the older working age groups. There was an increase of 138 inhabited houses in the town at the 31st December, 1956, compared with the previous year.

The rateable value of £134,295 is over £53,000 higher than in 1955, and the net product of a 1d. rate also increased by £175. Both figures are the highest ever recorded.

The annual rainfall was 7·7 inches more than in 1955 and the mean temperature was lower than the average.

I am indebted to Mr. R. G. Moorman, Manager of the Mexborough Employment Exchange, for the following information relating to occupations of the population.

Coal Mining is the main industry employing approximately half the working population, whilst British Railways employ about 350, Printing and Newspaper Trade 180, Bakery, Electricity Authorities, and the Local Authority, employ about 160 each, and the Brickworks have 50 employees. Approximately 120 are employed in Local Government Offices. The remainder are absorbed in Building, Distributive and Miscellaneous Trades.

Employment throughout the year has remained at about 1·3 or 1·4% of the insured population.

A brief analysis of the main types of disabled persons registered at the Employment Exchange is as follows :

Injuries to Lower Limbs...	...	...	...	12·7%
Limb Amputees	...	...	...	12%
Injuries to Upper Limbs ...	...	...	...	9·5%
Paraplegia Cases	...	...	...	7·1%
Bronchial Cases	...	...	...	7%
Pneumoconiosis Cases	...	...	...	5·1%

I am indebted to Mr. Maxwell, Area Officer, of the National Assistance Board, for the following information regarding residents in the Urban District at the end of the year who were in receipt of National Assistance.

Unemployed, disabled and others	...	...	120
Sick	...	...	102
Retirement Pensioners	...	...	620
Widows and other women with dependent children	...	...	83
			—
	Total	...	925
			—

VITAL STATISTICS

(c)

Live Births—

		Males	Females	Total
Total	...	145	122	267
Legitimate	...	136	118	254
Illegitimate	...	9	4	13
Birth rate (uncorrected)	...	...	...	14·3
Comparability factor	...	...	...	0·97
Birth rate (corrected)	...	...	...	13·8
Illegitimate births per 1,000 live-births	...	48·7		

Still-births—

		Males	Females	Total
Total	...	2	1	3
Legitimate	...	2	1	3
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	...	...	...	11·1
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population				0·16

Deaths—

		Males	Females	Total
All causes	...	115	78	193
Death rate (uncorrected)	...	...	...	10·3
Comparability factor	...	...	...	1·29
Death rate (corrected)	...	...	...	13·3
Maternal death rate	...	...	...	0·00

Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	Nil	
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	2	
Influenza	...	...	...	Nil	
Cancer	...	...	...	...	37
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	Nil
Pregnancy Childbirth and Abortion	...	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—

	Males	Females	Total
Total	...	5	4
Legitimate	...	5	4
Illegitimate	...	—	—

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 registered live birth	...	33.70
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	35.43
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	0.00

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age—

	Males	Females	Total
Total	...	4	3
Legitimate	...	4	3
Illegitimate	...	—	—
Neo-natal death rate	26.20

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Causes and Ages at Death.

	Weeks				Months					Total
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	1-2	2-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Prematurity	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Birth Injury	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Uraemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS	5	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	9

4 deaths were recorded in the 1st Quarter, 2 in the 2nd Quarter, 2 in the 3rd Quarter and 1 in the last Quarter of the year.

Principal Causes of Death	No. of deaths	% of all deaths
Heart Disease	64	33.1%
Cancer	37	19.1%
Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	12.4%
Respiratory Infections ...	18	9.3%

Deaths from Cancer

	1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		
	M.	F.													
Malignant Neoplasm															
Uterus (F)	—	4	—	5	—	2	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach & Duodenum	6	2	5	3	5	—	8	4	4	3	6	3	4	1	
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	—	2	—	2	—	2	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	2	
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	2	4	2	7	—	1	3	1	6	1	6	1	9	2
Malignant Neoplasm. All other sites, includ- ing Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	13	5	14	3	16	5	8	5	10	6	7	3	13	5	
TOTALS	24	15	23	15	28	10	20	15	20	11	19	9	26	11	

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1956

			Males	Fem.	Total
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	... ...	... ...	2	—	2
2. Tuberculosis, Other	... ...	... ...	1	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	... ...	... ...	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	... ...	... ...	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	... ...	... ...	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	... ...	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	... ...	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	... ...	... ...	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	... ...	4	1	5	

Deaths from all causes—cont.

		Males	Fem.	Total
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	2	11
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	4	17
15.	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	—	1	1
16.	Diabetes	1	3	4
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	13	24
18.	Coronary diseases, angina	21	8	29
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	2	4
20.	Other heart disease	14	15	29
21.	Other circulatory disease	1	1	2
22.	Influenza	—	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	3	2	5
24.	Bronchitis	8	5	13
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—	1
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	2	—	2
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformation	—	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	13	26
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
34.	All other accidents	5	3	8
35.	Suicide	1	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—
Total from all causes ...			115	78 193

MEXBOROUGH U.D.
PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR POST-WAR YEARS

	1956	5 Year Mean	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	5 year Mean	1949	1948	1947	1946
Population	18710	18818	18870	19020	19240	19230	18730	19184	19120	19270	19150	19080	19300
Birth Rate (per 1000 population)	14.3	14.82	12.6	15.1	14.9	16.0	15.6	18.62	18.2	19.1	18.7	21.4	15.7
Death Rate (per 1000 population)	10.3	10.04	9.3	9.1	10.2	9.3	12.3	10.12	11.3	9.8	10.9	10.7	7.7
Infantile Mortality (per 1000 live births)	33.7	36.0	12.6	41.8	38.3	32.5	54.8	47.32	31.6	46.2	52.9	46.5	59.4
Stillbirth Rate (per 1000 live and Stillbirths).....	11.1	25.56	24.6	20.5	36.9	15.9	29.9	25.62	22.5	23.8	27.1	23.9	28.8
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1000 Live and Stillbirths)	0.00	Nil	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.02	5.62	0.00	2.71	2.39	6.40
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Case Incidence (per 1000 population)	0.69	1.13	0.58	0.78	0.88	1.50	1.92	1.06	0.99	1.50	1.20	0.57	1.03
Pulmonary T.B. Death Rate (per 1000 population)	0.11	0.39	0.37	0.36	0.31	0.31	0.42	0.47	0.67	0.46	0.25	0.26	

MORBIDITY STATISTICS

New Claims to Sickness Benefit 1956 Mexborough M.N.I. Office

Week ending—		Week ending—		
January	10	551	July	3 338
	17	524		10 331
	24	604		17 308
	31	741		24 354
				31 354
		<u>2420</u>		<u>1685</u>
February	7	790	August	7 136
	14	710		14 354
	21	659		21 419
	28	556		28 319
		<u>2715</u>		<u>1228</u>
March	6	532	September	4 392
	13	440		11 589
	20	408		18 310
	27	463		25 427
		<u>1843</u>		<u>1718</u>
April	3	482	October	2 422
	10	360		9 452
	17	428		16 462
	24	410		23 545
				30 432
		<u>1680</u>		<u>2313</u>
May	1	440	November	6 440
	8	420		13 454
	15	379		20 440
	22	437		27 443
	29	348		
		<u>2024</u>		<u>1777</u>
June	5	324	December	4 450
	12	357		11 320
	19	376		18 279
	26	325		25) 1013
			January	1)
		<u>1382</u>		<u>2062</u>

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

(a) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(1) Staff

(a) Public Health Department, Mexborough.
(Mexborough Urban District Council).

Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer :

J. A. W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Director of Public Cleansing :

H. BREARLEY, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.,
Cert. Insp. of Meat and Other Foods.

District Public Health Inspector :

T. J. P. HENDRY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., R.P.

Clerk : P. H. WHITE.

Typist : Miss D. WAGSTAFFE.

(b) Divisional Health Office, Mexborough.
(West Riding County Council).

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer and Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. B. R. A. DEMAINE.

Assistant County Medical Officer :

Dr. H. F. LINDSAY.

Obstetrician :

Dr. J. C. MACWILLIAM.

(Joint Appointment with Regional Hospital Board).

Mental Health Social Worker : Mrs. F. H. REDMAN

Mental Health Home Teacher :
Mrs. P. M. WINSTANLEY.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :
Mrs. M. A. METCALFE, Miss M. LLOYD,
Miss H. WRAY, Mrs. E. APPLEYARD.

Midwives :
Mrs. A. E. SMITH (Relief), Mrs. S. BEARDSLEY,
Mrs. M. TAYLOR, Miss N. TUNE.

Home Nurses :
Miss S. M. BEDFORD, Mrs. N. HARRISON,
Mrs. G. MALPASS, Mrs. M. M. WALDRON.

Clerical Staff : Mr. P. GODDARD—Chief Clerk,
Mr. C. V. EYRE—Deputy Chief Clerk, Mr. H.
HAIGH, Mrs. H. SHIRLEY, Miss J. BELL,
Mrs. D. BILLINGTON, Miss A. RAY, Miss M.
LLOYD, Miss A. GARBUZZ, Miss A. FOSS.

The Public Health Division No. 30 comprises the Urban Districts of Conisbrough, Dearne and Mexborough. The Divisional Medical Officer is also Medical Officer of Health to each of the constituent Authorities.

Under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health, Chief Public Health Inspector and the District Public Health Inspector are contributed to by grants from the Ministry of Health.

(2) LABORATORY SERVICES

The Public Health Laboratories at Wakefield under Dr. Little and at Sheffield under Dr. Gillespie carry out bacteriological examinations.

The following reports were received in respect of specimens and samples examined at the laboratories during 1956.

Faeces Samples for Dysentery and Food Poisoning	291
Nose and Throat Swabs...	9
Sputum (T.B.)	34
Milk	20
Miscellaneous	5

(3) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

SECTION 47—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was not necessary to take any action under this section during the year.

SECTION 50—Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

No cases requiring action under this section occurred during 1956.

(4) PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

With the growth of the Town, it was found necessary to purchase one new vehicle and man it with three employees. The total number of employees engaged on Refuse Collection was 23 and six Karrier Bantam Vehicles were in use. High Street, with adjoining Garden Street, Sarah Street and Charles Street were put into a round of their own, so that High Street received at least three weekly collections. Later in the year it was found necessary to include parts of the Maple Road Housing Site in this round. It was found most difficult to undertake normal weekly collections at the beginning of the year owing to sickness, shortage of manpower and absenteeism. It was also felt that further supervision of the work may be necessary and for a trial period to the end of the year more supervision was given. The result of this was quite satisfactory and an improvement of the maintenance of the service took place. Further re-organisation will have to take place over the next year or two when some further 220 houses or so have been erected.

The employees were provided with overalls and gloves twice during the year.

Service was given to 270,148 bin premises and 4,379 loads of refuse were dealt with. There were also 1,103 loads of trade refuse. The figure of 270,148 bin premises is an increase of 47,601 over the figure for the previous year. It was also noted that the number of trade refuse loads increased from 872 in 1955 to 1,103 in 1956. There has been a steady increase year by year since 1947, when trade refuse loads numbered 266.

A total of 530 bins were renewed under the Municipal Bin Scheme.

Refuse Disposal

The whole of the refuse was deposited and dealt with by controlled tipping at a site in Pastures Road, where two men were employed full time. This site is leased to the Council by the National Coal Board for an annual sum of £50. Considerable trouble was caused on occasions by trespassers who caused several fires. The help of the police had to be sought. The life of the tip is only approximately another one or two years and negotiations were opened with a view to acquiring a further site in the Brickworks Quarry situated in Doncaster Road.

Salvage

The sale of recovered materials realised £847. 19s. 5d. Although this shows an increase of £78. 19s. 2d. over the figure for the previous year it had been hoped that a much bigger increase may have been attained. Unfortunately for the period July to December the Thames Board Mills, who received the paper, issued a quota restriction on deliveries and it was found impossible to get further markets. Several quantities of waste paper had to be destroyed.

The following tables show the amounts and values of materials salvaged :—

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	75	9	1	—	579	2	6
Newspaper	18	2	2	—	183	10	3
Rags	3	1	3	19	74	10	4
Woollens	1	1	1	17½	9	16	6
Scrap	2	2	2	23½		19	10
	96	17	3	4	847	19	5

(5) CONTROL OF PESTS ACT, 1949

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

Surveys were regularly carried out by the Rodent Operator and much time was devoted to allotment premises. A total of 142 premises infested by rats and 75 infested by mice were found and treated. None of these were of a major character. Poisons used were Zinc Phosphide and Warfarin, with great success. The annual 10% Sewer Test was carried out and it was again found that in only one small area was there evidence of any infestation. Regular inspections were made of Council owned properties including the Refuse Tip, Sewage Farm and Market Hall.

It was found that full co-operation was given by the citizens of the Town and several complaints were received where no direct evidence of infestation was found.

Number of rat infested premises and treated ...	142
Number of baiting points	1,225
Pre-baits laid	800
Post-baits showing infestation clear	1,827
Rat bodies recovered	629
Mice-infested premises	75
Mice bodies recovered	739

(6) DISINFESTATION

The main insect infestations were those of cockroaches, which appeared to have increased over the past year, particularly in old sub-standard houses. Cockroaches are amongst the hardest of insects to get rid of and considerable time and energy was devoted to this work. The number of bug infested premises were small and all prospective Council tenants from slum areas were treated as a precautionary measure.

Insecticides were provided free during the year.

The following verminous premises were treated :—

Bug infested properties (including precautionary treatment)...	10
Cockroach infestations	278
Carpet Moth	4
Silverfish	20
Flies	8
Ants	4
Red Spider	1
Woodworm	1
Miscellaneous	21

(b) LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Section 22

Ante-Natal Clinics

Sessions : Child Welfare Centre, Adwick Road, Mexborough.
Wednesdays—2 to 4.30 p.m.

Attendances : 251 mothers made 807 attendances.

The above figures indicate that over 77% of all mothers confined in the Mexborough area during 1956, attended the Local Authority's Ante-Natal Clinics.

Birth Control Clinics

The Family Planning Association hold clinics at the Child Welfare Centre, Mexborough, on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, from 2 to 3.30 p.m., and on the Tuesday evenings immediately following these Fridays, from 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Infant Welfare Clinics

Sessions : Child Welfare Centre, Adwick Road, Mexborough.
Tuesdays 2 to 4 p.m., Thursdays 2 to 4 p.m.

Attendances: The following Table shows the number of Infants and toddlers who attended the clinic, and the number of attendances made by these children to the clinics during 1956 :—

	No. of Children			Attendances		
	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years
MEXBOROUGH	144	35	7	2734	630	121

In addition to sales of proprietary brands of dried milks etc., Ministry of Food Welfare Foods were distributed at the Child Welfare Centres in the Division. During 1956 the following issues of Welfare Foods were made from Centres in this Divisional area :—

National Dried Milk	26,565	Tins
Orange Juice	30,516	Bottles
Cod Liver Oil	6,068	Bottles
A & D Vitamin capsules	2,169	Packets

MIDWIFERY - Section 23

Three Midwives and a relief Midwife are employed by the County Council in Mexborough. All own motor cars which they are authorised to use in the course of their official duties.

Of the 277 deliveries in the town, 145 were undertaken at home by the district Midwives, representing 53% of the total. General Practitioners were present at 12 of the domiciliary deliveries.

The following numbers of ante-natal and post-natal visits were made during the year :—

	Ante-Natal visits	Post-Natal visits
Domiciliary cases	885	2725
Hospital cases	172	84
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1057	2809
	<hr/>	<hr/>

110 of the mothers confined at home received gas and air analgesia and 81 of these additionally received injections of Pethidine. 76% of all cases received analgesia.

22 cases were discharged from Maternity Hospitals to the care of the Domiciliary Midwife prior to the fourteenth day.

HEALTH VISITING - Section 24

Four full-time Health Visitors were employed in Mexborough during 1956, they also combined their health visiting duties with school nursing duties.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year by these four Health Visitors.

Visits —

To expectant mothers	39
To children under 1 year	3,299
To children aged 1 to 2 years	1,260
To children aged 2 to 5 years	1,254
To T.B. households	355
To other cases	4,141

Clinics attended —

Maternity and Child Welfare	339
Chest Clinics	25
Other Clinics	35
School (Minor ailments)	34
Special defects clinics	5

School Nursing —

Medical Inspections	92
Cleanliness Surveys	30
Special visits	66
Home visits for infectious diseases, etc. ...	341

HOME NURSING - Section 25

The three Home Nurses with a fourth employed on relief duties who were engaged in the district during 1956, made 11,922 home visits. This was 2,200 more than in 1955.

A detailed analysis of these visits and the type of cases is given below :—

New Cases

AGE GROUPS			CLASSIFICATION					
0-5	5-65	65+	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Total
8	150	135	213	62	1	17	—	586

Visits

AGE GROUPS			CLASSIFICATION					
0-5	5-65	65+	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Total
51	6168	5703	9534	692	50	1646	—	11922

23% of all cases and over 47% of all visits were related to patients in the over 65 age group, and most of these patients required general nursing care, daily toilet, baths, etc.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION - Section 26

The following tables give the number of children immunised against Diphtheria and vaccinated against Small Pox during 1956 :—

Immunisations

	Under 1	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
PRIMARY	22	214	81	17	9	74	—	417
BOOSTER	—	—	—	1	2	155	30	188

Vaccinations

	Primary				Re-vaccination			
	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	15 years and over	Total	1-15 years	15 years and over	Total
5	10	14	8	37	5	7	12	

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

55 children under 1 year of age and 126 between the ages of 1 and 4 years were vaccinated against Whooping Cough during the year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Early in 1956 the Ministry of Health announced plans for the vaccination of children against Poliomyelitis. Vaccination was offered on a voluntary basis to children born between 1947 and 1954 inclusive. The County Council agreed to participate in the scheme and forms of consent were distributed at schools, Child Welfare Centres and by post, for completion by parents. 949 children were registered for vaccination in the Urban District, and 156 children were completely protected before the end of the year.

AMBULANCE SERVICE - Section 27

The ambulance service is administered by the County Ambulance Officer, and the local depot is at Dunford House, Wath-upon-Dearne, where the Superintendent is Mr. F. Hyde. 3 clerk/telephonists maintain a 24 hour service and the depot is manned by 18 male drivers including 3 shift-leaders, and 2 female drivers. 6 vehicles, including one sitting car are available and vehicles from neighbouring depots are utilised as and when necessary, either to re-inforce or economise in the transport of patients. A recent innovation to improve the efficiency of the service, is the introduction of radio control for all vehicles.

Mr. Hyde has kindly supplied the following information relating to the service in 1956 as it applies to the Wath depot:—

No. of patients conveyed	30,970
No. of journeys	6,075
Mileage, 1/1/56 to 31/12/56	161,623

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS - CARE & AFTER-CARE

Section 28

(i) Nursing Equipment in the Home

With the object of increasing the patient's comfort and to facilitate nursing, sick-room equipment, such as urine bottles, bed pans, bed rests, cushions, air rings, bed cradles and walking aids are available for loan. Larger items of equipment such as special beds, ordinary and dunlopillo mattresses, wheel chairs, fracture boards, blankets and sheets can also be supplied as necessary. 525 loans of all these items were made during the year, throughout the Division as a whole.

(ii) Hospital After-Care

Miss D. M. E. Goldthorpe, a Health Visitor from Dearne, undertakes the work of liaison Health Visitor at the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, whilst Miss A. D. Willoughby a Health Visitor from Denaby Main does similar work at the Fullerton Hospital, Denaby Main.

In 1956, 98 sessions at the Montagu Hospital occupied 204 hours, and at the Fullerton Hospital the Health Visitor spent 25 hours at 47 visits. 172 home background reports were provided for the medical staff and 50 patients received assistance while in hospital.

After discharge 218 patients were referred to the Public Health Department for assistance and of these 160 were helped by the Health Visitors, 50 by Home Nurses and more than 20 were provided with Domestic assistance.

(iii) Tuberculosis After-Care

41 patients in the Mexborough area were receiving extra nourishment in the form of 2 pints of milk daily at the 31st December, 1956, under the County Council Scheme. This represents over a third of all notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in the town.

13 patients in the Division as a whole received assistance, usually in the form of clothing or footwear, from the Doncaster Tuberculosis Care Committee.

In 1956, 4 patients in the town were supplied with bedding, and in one case a bed and mattress under the After-Care Scheme to effect bedroom segregation from the rest of the family. Altogether, 13 patients in your area have similar equipment on loan to them.

2 children who were known contacts of persons suffering from tuberculosis, were given the added protection of B.C.G. vaccination. It is hoped to make a start with the B.C.G. vaccination of 13 year old school children during 1957.

I am indebted to Dr. R. L. Sadler, Assistant Chest Physician, at Mexborough Chest Clinic for the following comments. The figures quoted are for the whole of the area served by the Clinic:

"At the end of 1956 the following cases of pulmonary tuberculosis remained on the Register: Men 303, Women 231 and children 79. Most of these cases are quiescent. A separate list of active pulmonary cases which will be of greater use to Health Visitors, is being compiled during 1957. Newly notified cases in 1956 were: Men—29, Women—16 and children—3. It is noteworthy that about half the new male cases were over 50; this is an important consideration in contact tracing as elderly persons may be reluctant to attend for an X-Ray.

"224 new contacts of tuberculous patients were X-Rayed during the year. Among these contacts, 7 cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered, this being at least 10 times the expected incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis in a random sample of the population.

"B.C.G. was offered to child contacts and nursing staff. 82 cases were vaccinated in 1956.

"The value of long term courses (one or two years) of streptomycin and chemotherapy has been demonstrated, and this form of treatment has been used increasingly in this area since 1955. Collapse therapy is much less needed but major surgery is performed in suitable cases in conjunction with prolonged drug treatment. Approximately 80 patients at one time may be receiving domiciliary drug treatment and it is important that the toxic side effects of these drugs are widely known. Among cases which usually fail to respond to drug therapy are miners with complicated pneumoconiosis and positive sputum."

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE ~ Section 29

Home Helps attended for 24,541 hours at 164 cases in the Urban District during 1956. Over 80% of the cases, and of the time, related to the care of the chronic sick, and this group consists mainly of the aged folk.

The figures for 1956 show an increase of 48 cases and 2,836 hours on the figures for the previous year. 42 of the new cases were in the Chronic Sick age group, and these patients also accounted for an increase of 3,249 hours.

The following table shows the number and type of cases assisted and the time worked at these cases during 1956:—

	Cases	Hours
Chronic Sick	... ... ... 136	... 21192
Tuberculosis	... ... ... 7	... 1637
Maternity	... ... ... 9	... 716
Others	... ... ... 12	... 996

		24,541

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Dr. B. R. A. Demaine reports as follows:

The work of the School Health Service has been maintained during 1956 in the Mexborough area.

Children are now submitted for Routine Inspections in 4 groups:—

1. Primary School Children as soon as possible after admission.
2. Primary School Children between 7 and 8 years.
3. Primary School Children during last year of attendance.
4. Secondary School Children during their last term.

In addition, periodic examinations are carried out on:

5. Handicapped children (physical and mental).
6. All children each term before return to special schools.
7. Children prior to holidays in camp or the Continent.
8. College entrants.

This is the basic feature of the School Health Service and promotes positive health through direct personal health education.

All children found defective at a previous inspection are checked for the particular defect for which they were under observation.

“Special” Examinations are those not falling within a periodical age group, but are brought forward by Head Teacher, parents or Health Visitor.

School Clinics

Held 1st Thursday every month in Mexborough.

Paediatric Clinics are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Mexborough Clinic, when Dr. Harvey consults along with School Medical Officers establishing valuable and helpful liaison between the Hospital and School Health Service.

Handicapped Children

These comprise Physical and Mental cases.

Physical cases may attend ordinary school at home, and be sent to one of the Special Schools in the County.

Mentally Handicapped are assessed as to the suitability for entrance to schools for E.S.N. Children, or to an Occupation Centre. Visits are also paid to the homes in cases of Physically and Mentally Handicapped Children, to assess the need for a Home Teacher.

The opening of the Milton School will help the E.S.N. cases, but there is urgent need for an Occupation Centre. Children who are ineducable are transferred to the Mental Health Section, but as there is no Occupation Centre in the Division, some are accepted in Doncaster, and for the others, classes are run in clinics, and despite the difficulties of unsuitable premises, the teacher in charge achieves excellent results. This service is much appreciated by parents. Several cases have to be visited in the home and assessed for the necessity of a Home Teacher. The recent appointment of a Consultant Psychiatrist will be an added help in difficult cases.

Placements for children who are blind and partially sighted are made through the county, and the deaf children are admitted to Doncaster. Delicate children have benefited by stays at Ingleborough and Grassington.

With modern treatment of Epilepsy more of these children attend ordinary schools instead of being sent to Residential Institutions.

Diphtheria immunization has been carried out on an extensive scale, and children between 5 and 6 and 10 and 11 have been given booster doses. Children who have not received protection in their first year are given a protective course on admission to school, but it is preferable to have them immunized in infancy.

School children are now receiving vaccination against Poliomyelitis being done in groups selected by the Ministry.

The services of a Speech Therapist are now available again, and is very helpful to the patient, parents and teachers.

Children also attend special clinics for Orthoptic Treatment, and for Physiotherapy at the local Hospital, and Ultra Violet Ray Clinic held twice a week at Mexborough clinic.

Although more services are becoming available, it is very disheartening to find so many children suffering from infestation of lice. Despite the continuous efforts of the Health Visitors this condition persists and increases in intensity after holiday periods.

Improved nutrition is now very noticeable among school children and this is due in great measure to the increased efficiency in serving school meals.

Parent Teacher Associations are helping to make parents Health conscious, and I would like to pay tribute to the co-operation and good feeling which exists between the parents, Teaching Staff and Health Visitors of this division.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The Mental Health Social Workers are statutory bound to visit Statutory supervision and Guardianship cases, at six monthly intervals. However, in quite a number of cases it is necessary to visit more often, for parents appreciate their help in trying to avert family crises, which sometimes arise from the defectives behaviour pattern.

The Social Workers are always willing to give whatever assistance they can, to help smooth out problems which, from time to time arise in a defective's life, perhaps the greatest problem is keeping the defectives adequately occupied, for it is the unoccupied defective who is most likely to become beyond the parental control.

Occupation Centres, where the defectives attend daily, and acquire a necessary discipline and a sense of social responsibility are the obvious solution to the problem. Such centres, in addition to helping the defectives are of equal help to the mothers, for it is they who normally bear the brunt of finding suitable occupation and amusement in the home and who with the establishment of Occupation Centres, can happily carry on a normal household routine, knowing that their children are in capable hands.

At present 10 defectives are attending the Doncaster Occupation Centre. Those awaiting Occupation Centre are provided for by the Group Training classes, which are as follows:—

Child Welfare Centre, Adwick Road, Mexborough,
Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

In some instances defectives attend more than one group training class, and are showing the benefit of regular training. Training is given in good habits, social behaviour, sense training, handicrafts (knitting, rug-making, and needlework).

Where defectives will respond, training is given in elementary reading, writing and arithmetic and money values.

The shortage of accommodation in Mental Deficiency Institutions and Mental hospitals still continues, but 2 vacancies were found last year which were gladly accepted. It is necessary for the Mental Health Social Workers to keep under constant review the possible institutional requirements for mental defectives, based on an appraisal of the social conditions.

The Regional Hospital Board, in an attempt to relieve the situation, has from time to time made available short-stay vacancies of up to one month's duration. These short-stay vacancies, even when they do not meet the full requirements of the situation are nevertheless of considerable help for they give parents a little time for rest and relaxation, which so often the continual care of a defective child, never allows.

A steady rate of employment of high grade defectives has been maintained, with the help and co-operation of the Youth Employment Board in this division. It has been established that some high grade defectives although taking much longer to absorb a routine job, will eventually give under supervision useful service. There has been a steady increase in the work under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and many home visits have been made by the Mental Health Social Worker.

Patients discharged from Mental hospitals are visited, to determine whether the improvement in their mental health has been maintained. In the event of a relapse, the patient is referred to the out-patients Psychiatric clinic at the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley or the Doncaster Royal Hospital.

The Mental Health Social Worker attends these clinics, and acts as the co-ordinating officer between the clinic and the various local Health Authority departments, and do whatever field work is required by the Consultant Psychiatrist.

Mental Health after-care is a field of work still largely unexplored but a beginning has been made, and worth while results will eventually accrue.

The following are statistics relating to mental health patients who were being supervised under the Mental Deficiency Acts in the Urban area during 1956:—

No. under Statutory Supervision	...	...	...	...	24
No. under Voluntary Supervision	...	...	...	...	4
No. under Guardianship	...	...	...	...	1
New ascertainment during 1956	...	...	...	...	2
No. of cases referred for after-care from Hospitals					4
No. of visits paid to patients for after-care	...	...			14
No. of patients provided with short-stay hospital care	...	...	...	...	2
No. of patients admitted to Institutions during 1956					2
No. of reports submitted for Institutions	...	...			14
No. of Patients attending Doncaster Occupation Centre	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Patients attending Group Training Classes					10
No. of Patients receiving training at home	...	...			6

(c)

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Local Hospital Services are administered by the Rotherham and Mexborough Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

General Hospital Services for the district are in the main provided by the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, Moorgate Hospital, Rotherham, and the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley.

Cases of **Infectious Diseases** requiring Hospital isolation are admitted as a rule to Kendray Hospital, Barnsley, and occasionally to the Isolation Hospital, Doncaster.

Maternity Hospital Services are available at the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, and Moorgate General Hospital, Rotherham. During 1956, 107 mothers from the Urban District were confined at the Montagu Hospital, and 25 at other hospitals and Nursing Homes.

Venereal Diseases Clinics are held at the Out-Patient Department, Moorgate General Hospital, Rotherham, and sessions are held as follows:—

TREATMENT SESSIONS:

Males: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 4.30 to 6.30 p.m.

Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Females: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, 4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

CLINICAL SESSIONS:

Males: Wednesday, 4.30 to 6.30 p.m., Friday, 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Females: Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, 4 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Chest Clinic, Whateley House, Cemetery Road, Mexborough

Sessions: Monday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

(d)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

There are 10 Medical Practitioners practising in the Urban District.

1 Partnership employs 3 doctors, there are 3 partnerships of two doctors, and one single-handed practice.

SECTION "C"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The two biggest problems of the area would appear to be housing and atmospheric pollution. The available housing sites have been very difficult to develop but progress has been made since the end of the war, and a total of 576 houses have been provided. During the year under review 137 new houses were erected. Progress was also made in regard to Slum Clearance and by the end of the year almost half of the 294 houses in the Five Year Slum Clearance Programme had been represented.

The problem of atmospheric pollution has increased owing to extensions to the Generating Station situated in the eastern part of the Town and the development of the large National Coal Board Coking and By-Product Plant at Manvers Main Colliery on the western boundary.

WATER SUPPLY

A full supply of water was available to all parts of the Town and this was made possible by the buying in bulk supply from the Sheffield Corporation to augment the Council's own sources at the Bore Hole in Pitt Street and the Ludwell Springs at High Melton. 24 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and 23 of them were found to be satisfactory.

The Swinton Urban District Council's water undertaking which supplied the Roman Terrace area was taken over by Sheffield Corporation on 1st October, 1956. Considerable trouble had been experienced by service pipes silting up in this area and arrangements were made by the Sheffield Corporation to clear all blocked pipes on a very small charge to the owners. This offer was readily accepted by the Property Owners in the District and this very serious problem seemed to have reached a solution.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

It becomes more apparent year by year that the Sewerage Works and Sewerage System are out-dated and several complaints were received from certain areas of the Town of flooding after periods of heavy rain. The new surface water sewer in the Wath Road and Swinton Road areas alleviated flooding in that area and especially in Swinton Road.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT

The following inspections were carried out during the year :—

Nature of Inspection	No. of Inspections
Factories	28
Bakehouses	26
Drainage	153
Offensive Trades	22
Common Lodging House	20
Temporary Dwellings	12
Rats and Mice	919
Shops	131
Infectious Diseases	79
Houses	5,491
Slaughter Houses	115
Ice Cream Premises	75
Restaurants and Cafes	17
Other Food Premises	157
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops	29
Smoke Inspections	109
Miscellaneous	52
Vermin Infestations	83
Hairdressers	37

Complaints

878 complaints were received and dealt with. Most of these related to Housing defects.

Overcrowding

No official figures were available for assessment of overcrowding as there has been no survey for several years. There were, however, two new cases of overcrowding reported during the year and seven overcrowded families were rehoused.

Tents, Vans, Sheds

3 short term licences were issued in respect of living vans during the year. These vans were occupied by persons who were working in the area on engineering projects for short periods. There were no nuisances caused.

Common Lodging House

Inspections of the Common Lodging House, Lees Building were made on 20 occasions. It was found that the standard was deteriorating and after approach to the owner had been made, some improvements were carried out.

Atmospheric Pollution

From a glance at recordings over the previous years, it would appear that the Mexborough Urban District was becoming dirtier. There was a greater emission of sulphur dioxide and deposit gauge readings of soot deposits per square mile per month showed an increase over the figures for the previous year. The Township is now situated in an unenviable position between two great sources of pollution, namely, the Manvers Main Coking and By-Product Plant situated just over the western boundary and inside the Wath Urban District, and the Electricity Generating Station on the south eastern boundary. Work was in progress on the extension of the Electricity Generating Station and another chimney was to be added. In addition, the chimneys of the Denaby Main Colliery, again on the south eastern boundary, continued to pour black smoke into the district.

There were no complaints regarding smoke nuisances from the Montagu Hospital chimney, automatic coking stokers having been installed there. There were also no complaints about smoke emission from the Miners' Hostel.

17 smoke observations were made and excessive emissions of black smoke were noted on 10 occasions.

The Council continued to instal the best type of modern ranges in their new houses.

The readings of the lead peroxide instruments and deposit gauge are below. It will be noted that an exceptional high deposit gauge reading for the month of July is given. It was felt that this figure is an inaccurate one and that the deposit gauge had been tampered with.

The lead peroxide instruments and deposit gauge readings are enclosed.

SULPHUR GAUGE READINGS - 1956

Wt. Ba SO₄.

Period	Station	Area Exposed in Sq. Cm.	In Sample (Mg)	In Control (Mg)	Due to Exposure (Mg)	Wt of SO ₃ collected Mg/100 sq.cm/day
Jan. 1956	Bailey	99·0	357·0	5·0	352·0	4·07
	Denaby	95·0	303·0	5·0	298·0	3·59
	Hanby	95·0	219·0	5·0	214·0	2·58
	Market Hall	95·0	325·0	5·0	320·0	3·86
	Sewage Farm	100·0	285·0	5·0	280·0	3·21
	Water Tower	100·0	350·0	5·0	345·0	3·95
	1st Y.E.P.	102·0	240·0	5·0	235·0	2·64
	2nd Y.E.P.	102·0	315·0	5·0	310·0	3·42
Feb. 1956	Bailey	98·0	264·0	4·0	260·0	3·14
	Denaby	95·0	200·0	4·0	196·0	2·44
	Hanby	98·0	195·0	4·0	191·0	2·31
	Market Hall	105·0	329·0	4·0	325·0	3·67
	Sewage Farm	99·0	519·0	4·0	515·0	6·16
	Water Tower	98·0	443·0	4·0	439·0	5·30
	1st Y.E.P.	100·0	196·0	4·0	192·0	2·27
	2nd Y.E.P.	100·0	279·0	4·0	275·0	3·26
March 1956	Bailey	97·0	171·0	7·0	164·0	2·00
	Denaby	100·0	199·0	7·0	192·0	2·27
	Hanby	97·0	115·0	7·0	108·0	1·32
	Market Hall	100·0	185·0	7·0	178·0	2·11
	Sewage Farm	99·0	85·0	7·0	78·0	0·93
	Water Tower	100·0	361·0	7·0	354·0	4·19
	1st Y.E.P.	100·0	167·0	7·0	160·0	1·89
	2nd Y.E.P.	100·0	192·0	7·0	185·0	2·19
April 1956	Bailey	97·0	168·0	6·0	162·0	1·85
	Denaby .....	.....	.....	No Record	.....	.....
	Hanby	97·0	116·0	6·0	110·0	1·26
	Market Hall	95·0	196·0	6·0	190·0	2·22
	Sewage Farm	100·0	144·0	6·0	138·0	1·53
	Water Tower	97·0	322·0	6·0	316·0	3·61
	1st Y.E.P.	99·0	118·0	6·0	112·0	1·25
	2nd Y.E.P.	100·0	153·0	6·0	147·0	1·63
May 1956	Bailey	95·0	189·0	4·0	185·0	2·16
	Denaby	95·0	117·0	4·0	113·0	1·32
	Hanby	95·0	127·0	4·0	123·0	1·43
	Market Hall	100·0	214·0	4·0	210·0	2·33
	Sewage Farm	95·0	156·0	4·0	152·0	1·77
	Water Tower	98·0	290·0	4·0	286·0	3·23
	1st Y.E.P.	100·0	170·0	4·0	166·0	1·84
	2nd Y.E.P.	99·0	170·0	4·0	166·0	1·86
June 1956	Bailey	95·0	142·0	2·0	140·0	1·63
	Denaby	97·0	84·0	2·0	82·0	0·94
	Hanby	100·0	115·0	2·0	113·0	1·25
	Market Hall	100·0	181·0	2·0	179·0	1·98
	Sewage Farm	103·0	134·0	2·0	132·0	1·42
	Water Tower	98·0	249·0	2·0	247·0	2·77
	1st Y.E.P.	100·0	96·0	2·0	94·0	1·04
	2nd Y.E.P.	96·0	154·0	2·0	152·0	1·75

SULPHUR GAUGE READINGS - 1956 (cont.)

Wt. Ba SO₄.

Period	Station	Area Exposed in Sq. Cm.	In Sample (Mg)	In Control (Mg)	Due to Exposure (Mg)	Wt of SO ₃ collected Mg/100 sq.cm/day
July 1956	Bailey	104.0	119.0	3.0	116.0	1.28
	Denaby	102.0	70.0	3.0	67.0	0.76
	Hanby	97.0	182.0	3.0	179.0	2.11
	Market Hall	98.0	139.0	3.0	136.0	1.59
	Sewage Farm	101.0	110.0	3.0	107.0	1.21
	Water Tower	100.0	221.0	3.0	218.0	2.25
	1st Y.E.P.	99.0	87.0	3.0	84.0	0.87
	2nd Y.E.P.	101.0	134.0	3.0	131.0	1.48
	Bailey	96.0	147.0	2.0	145.0	1.67
	Denaby	100.0	110.0	2.0	108.0	1.20
Aug. 1956	Hanby	97.0	131.0	2.0	129.0	1.47
	Market Hall	99.0	182.0	2.0	180.0	2.01
	Sewage Farm	97.0	211.0	2.0	209.0	2.39
	Water Tower	95.0	209.0	2.0	207.0	2.41
	1st Y.E.P.	99.0	108.0	2.0	106.0	1.19
	2nd Y.E.P.	100.0	144.0	2.0	142.0	1.37
	Bailey	98.0	130.0	4.0	126.0	1.47
	Denaby	100.0	104.0	4.0	100.0	1.14
	Hanby	97.0	181.0	4.0	177.0	2.09
	Market Hall	96.0	164.0	4.0	160.0	1.91
Sept. 1956	Sewage Farm	100.0	221.0	4.0	217.0	2.48
	Water Tower	99.0	247.0	4.0	243.0	2.81
	1st Y.E.P.	99.0	103.0	4.0	99.0	1.14
	2nd Y.E.P.	101.0	135.0	4.0	131.0	1.48
	Bailey	96.0	193.0	3.0	190.0	2.19
	Denaby	96.0	166.0	3.0	163.0	1.88
	Hanby	98.0	156.0	3.0	153.0	1.73
	Market Hall .....	.....	.....	No Record	.....	.....
	Sewage Farm	99.0	298.0	3.0	295.0	3.30
	Water Tower	100.0	400.0	3.0	397.0	4.40
Oct. 1956	1st Y.E.P.	97.0	150.0	3.0	147.0	1.68
	2nd Y.E.P.	97.0	218.0	3.0	215.0	2.46
	Bailey	100.0	264.0	9.0	255.0	2.92
	Denaby	101.0	259.0	9.0	250.0	2.83
	Hanby	98.0	235.0	9.0	226.0	2.64
	Market Hall	99.0	315.0	9.0	306.0	3.54
	Sewage Farm	101.0	420.0	9.0	411.0	4.66
	Water Tower	100.0	355.0	9.0	346.0	3.96
	1st Y.E.P.	100.0	203.0	9.0	194.0	2.22
	2nd Y.E.P.	99.0	318.0	9.0	309.0	3.57
Nov. 1956	Bailey	98.0	297.0	13.0	284.0	3.11
	Denaby	100.0	235.0	13.0	222.0	2.38
	Hanby	97.0	243.0	13.0	230.0	2.55
	Market Hall	98.0	279.0	13.0	266.0	2.91
	Sewage Farm	98.0	439.0	13.0	426.0	4.66
	Water Tower	98.0	339.0	13.0	326.0	3.57
	1st Y.E.P.	99.0	262.0	13.0	249.0	2.70
	2nd Y.E.P.	100.0	309.0	13.0	296.0	3.18

DEPOSIT GAUGE READINGS - PERIOD JANUARY - DECEMBER, 1956

Site of Gauge	—	In front of the Urban District Council Offices, corner of Adwick Road and Doncaster Road, Mexborough.
Gauge Number	—	D.326.
Metric Factor	—	(g. deposit to g/100 m. 2). 1302.
British Factor	—	(g. deposit to tons/mi. 2) 33.19

Analysis of Matter Collected in Atmospheric Deposit Gauge per Calendar month												
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
WATER	77.0	32.0	17.0	73.0	5.0	74.0	88.0	150.0	71.0	30.0	16.0	62.0
pH Value	4.1	4.0	6.0	5.0	5.6	4.5	4.4	4.9	5.5	5.0	4.7	4.2
TOTAL WATER —												
INSOLUBLE MATTER	9.85	8.16	11.12	9.26	9.52	12.11	9.53	13.51	9.79	7.80	6.51	10.16
Soluble in CS ₂	0.33	0.13	0.10	0.10	0.23	0.03	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.17
Ash	6.57	5.41	8.00	6.24	6.44	7.67	4.05	7.17	6.47	4.81	4.45	6.67
Other Combustible												
Matter	2.95	2.62	3.02	2.92	2.85	4.41	5.38	6.27	3.22	2.89	1.96	3.32
TOTAL WATER —												
SOLUBLE MATTER	9.39	7.57	5.91	9.72	3.82	18.09	99.93	19.88	9.79	4.81	4.05	17.42
Ca +	0.83	0.56	0.33	1.23	0.43	2.32	9.09	2.22	0.96	0.63	0.46	1.86
Cl—	1.76	1.66	0.83	1.49	0.53	2.36	11.64	2.46	0.90	1.03	0.86	2.36
SO ₄	3.52	2.39	2.02	3.98	1.36	6.97	38.07	7.07	3.72	2.02	1.53	6.54
TOTAL SOLIDS	19.25	15.73	17.03	18.98	13.34	30.20	109.46	33.39	19.58	12.61	10.55	27.58
tons per sq. mile												

Factories

The register showed 65 factories, 52 with power and 13 with non power. All the industries were small and of a light nature and 6 cases of defective Sanitary Conveniences were remedied.

Hairdressers

There were 31 registered hairdressers in the district and 37 inspections were made. Improvements were carried out at two premises.

SECTION "D"

HOUSING IN THE AREA

There were 5,444 inhabited houses in the Urban District at the end of 1956. Of these, 1,637 were Council houses.

House Erection

During 1956, the 137 new Council houses were completed and one new house was provided by private enterprise.

Housing Demolition

The Housing policy was to pursue the Slum Clearance Programme as far as possible with a view to removing the long standing sub-standard properties which have long dominated certain areas of the Town. Confirmation from the Ministry of Local Government and Housing of the Wragby Row Clearance Area was obtained and the Wath Road No. 1 Clearance Area was represented. These two areas contained a total of 69 houses with a total of 272 persons to be displaced. In addition a Demolition Order under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 was made in respect of one house. By the end of the year 60 persons had been rehoused. The occupants of the houses in the Clayfield Road and New Street areas were being moved to the new houses provided under the Re-Development Plan in the Clayfield Road area and the Wragby Row families were offered accommodation on the Highwoods Estate.

Housing Inspection

A total of 917 houses were inspected for housing defects during the year, and 5,481 inspections made. Repairs were carried out to 694 houses as a result of informal action and a further 53 after service of formal notices. It was not found necessary to take Court Proceedings in any case.

The individual items of repair work numbered 1,286 and these were as follows:—

Chimneys repaired ...	60	Roofs repaired	358
Eaves Gutters repaired .	68	Defective Walls repaired	37
Damp Walls remedied ..	69	Windows repaired ...	44
Steps repaired	4	Doors repaired	16
Plaster renewed	98	Sinks renewed	8
Sink Linings renewed...	1	Waste Pipes renewed...	2
Coppers renewed... ...	3	Ranges repaired	85
Firebacks renewed ...	24	Floors repaired	19
Water in Cellars	20	Choked Drains released.	120
Drains reconstructed ...	3	Gullies renewed	1
Smoke Nuisances remedied	20	Ventilation	1
Yard Paving	16	Rain Water Pipes repaired	29
W.C.'s renewed	4	W.C.'s repaired	84
Nuisance from Animals	1	Miscellaneous	91
TOTAL : 1,286			

Statutory Notices

Section 45 Public Health Act, 1936	...	5
Section 93 Public Health Act, 1936	...	64

Housing Improvements

There were 10 grants made by the Council for improvement of housing accommodation under the Housing Act, 1949 as amended by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Sub-Standard Housing

At the end of the year 117 sub-standard houses were still occupied in the Urban District.

Rehousing on Medical Grounds

The Medical Officer of Health investigated 38 cases where medical reasons were put forward for priority rehousing.

Summary of Post-War Housing

The following is a summary of houses constructed by the Urban District Council since World War II.

Type of House

SITE	O.P.B.	2 bed-rooms	3 bed-rooms	4 bed-rooms	Flat	Total	Com- pletion Date
Highwoods Estate & Manvers Road	20	30	387	14	52	503	31st. Dec. 1956
Auckland Road	9	—	17	—	16	42	Jan. 1954
Main Street	—	—	—	—	2	2	Aug. 1952
New Street	—	—	—	—	20	20	Mar. 1952
Kings Road	—	—	4	—	4	8	Dec. 1952
Cemetery Road	—	—	—	—	16	13	Aug. 1953
Victoria Road	8	—	—	—	—	8	Mar. 1954
Clayfield Estate	—	8	4	—	—	12	31st. Dec. 1956

The Council erected a total of 1,010 houses on the Adwick Road/Harlington Road and Windhill Estates prior to the war, and additionally 16 old people's bungalows in Montagu Street and Crossgate.

SECTION "E"

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Certain sections of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 came into operation on the 1st January and on the 1st July the regulations as a whole were enforceable.

There were two licenced slaughter houses operating but only pigs were slaughtered. At both slaughter houses only good quality pigs were utilised and a post mortem inspection was carried out in every case. No nuisances were caused. A total of 469 pigs were slaughtered and the following quantities of meat and offal were found to be unfit for human consumption.

12 Pigs' Heads, 162 lbs. (tuberculosis).

1 Pig's Pluck (abscess).

Regular visits were made to shops and wholesale dealers' premises and the following were found unfit for human consumption and destroyed.

CONDEMNED FOOD - 1956

Corned Beef, 53 tins; 10 lbs.	Pears, 25 tins
Peaches, 52 tins	Tongue, 45 tins; 14½ lbs.
Pilchards, 2 tins	Cheese, 327 lbs.
Strawberries, 41 tins	Peas, 18 tins
Milk, 43 tins	Soup, 7 tins
Pineapple, 36 tins	Beans, 8 tins
Raspberries, 9 tins	Blackcurrants, 5 jars
Luncheon Meat, 29 tins	Minced Beef Loaf, 23 tins
Gammon, 14 tins; 9½ lbs.	Shoulder, 7 tins; 9 lbs.
Boiled Ham, 15½ lbs.	Pigs' Heads, 8
Oranges, 43 tins	Stewed Steak, 8 tins
Tomato Ketchup, 1 bottle	Beef Sausage, 88½ lbs.
Pork Sausage, 17½ lbs.	Flour, 15 bags
Coconut, 4 lbs.	Ground Rice, 7 lbs.
Oatmeal, 12 lbs.	Cakes, 17
Cream, 3 tins	Syrup, 4 tins
Bacon, 108½ lbs.	Rhubarb, 7 tins
Plums, 12 tins	Pressed Beef, 2 tins
Strawberry Jam, 3 jars	Marmalade, 4 jars
Fruit Salad, 3 tins	Tomatoes, 163 tins; 2 lbs.
Jellied Veal, 11 tins	Salmon, 1 tin
Crawfish, 2 tins	Fishcakes, 108
Coconut Ice, 7 lbs.	Prawns, 2 doz. pkts.
Cherries, 3 tins	Haddock, 8 stone
Cod, 4 stone	Mallow Creams, 6 dozen
Creamola, 1 pkt.	Sweet Pickle, 5 jars
Pork, 4 tins	Horlicks Tablets, 8 boxes
Butter, 1½ lbs.	Loganberries, 6 jars
Lemon Curd, 4 jars	Grapefruit, 2 tins
Creamed Rice, 2 tins	Tomato Juice, 1 tin
Bloaters, 20 lbs.	Macaroni, 1 packet
Apricots, 42 tins	Cabbage, 2 jars
Onions, 1 jar	Sardines, 1 tin
Grosvenor Pie, 1 lb.	Cookeen, 1 lb.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

3 licences to stun or slaughter animals were issued during the year. No offences were committed.

Food Premises

Particular attention was given to food premises with regard to the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 and a systematic policy of inspection was drawn up. It was realised that with other duties of the Department a long term programme would have to be formulated. It was decided to concentrate on fried fish shops first, and by the year end, 12 shops had been visited and improvements commenced by the owners.

Approach was made to one small cafe owner on the subject and the owner decided to close up. One wholesale dealer's premises also closed during the year.

The following food preparing premises were operating :

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tripe Boilers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Preparation and manufacture of sausage, pressed, pickled or preserved foods	...							10
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22

The Council decided to erect two modern tripe stalls in the Council owned market, provided with hot and cold water to replace two open stalls.

A total of 357 inspections of food premises were made. It was found that the standard of cleanliness in the Town was a good one and the food traders were very willing to co-operate with the Department.

Ice Cream

There were 79 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and although there was one registration for manufacture of Ice Cream, no Ice Cream was in fact manufactured. 262 inspections were made and all premises were provided with hot and cold water and washing facilities. All Ice Cream sold was wrapped and provided by four or five large manufacturing concerns. 6 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, 4 of which were placed in Grade I and 2 in Grade II. There was no complaint about the sale of Ice Cream.

Shops Act, Section 38, 1950

A total of 574 visits were made to shop premises and 3 unsatisfactory conditions were remedied.

Milk Production

All milk sold within the Urban District was pasteurised, sterilised or tuberculin tested. There were 47 registered distributors and the following licences for the sale of milk were in force :—

Supplementary Licences (Pasteurised)	3
„ „ (Sterilised)	2
„ „ (Tuberculin Tested) ...	2
Dealers' Licences (Sterilised)	2
„ „ (Pasteurised)	Nil
„ „ (Tuberculin Tested)	Nil

SECTION "F"

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of notifications of Infectious Diseases received during 1956 was 233, which was 71 fewer than for the previous year. Scarlet Fever (75 cases notified), was the most prevalent infectious disease during 1956.

Scarlet Fever

75 cases were notified all of which were confirmed, and 61 of these were admitted to hospital. The number of cases notified is one less than the figure for 1955. No deaths were reported from this disease.

Whooping Cough

An increase of 3 cases was recorded over the figure of 38 for 1955.

Anterior Poliomyelitis

One case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis was notified during June 1956. A second case notified as non-paralytic poliomyelitis was re-diagnosed as Meningococcal Infection. It will be recalled that there were 11 confirmed cases of Paralytic Poliomyelitis and 9 of Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis in the town the previous year.

Measles

42 cases of Measles were notified, a decrease of 44 on the figure for 1956.

Dysentery

A small outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurred in the town during February and March, resulting in a total of 37 cases being notified by the 31st March, and 50 by the end of the year. 40 of the 50 cases were in young people under the age of 14, and 16 of these were in the 5 to 9 age group. The outbreak started in the Schofield Street area, and it is thought that it may have emanated from an Infant School in the district. Extensive sampling was carried out at the time.

Meningococcal Infection

The 3 confirmed cases represented a decrease of 4 on the number notified during 1955. All 3 cases were admitted and treated in hospital.

Acute Pneumonia

20 notifications of Acute Pneumonia were received during 1956, 3 fewer than in the previous year. 16 of the 20 cases were in the 45 and over age group. 8 cases were admitted to hospital and there were 5 deaths from the disease during 1956.

Puerperal Pyrexia

One case was notified and this occurred in a young wife who had been confined at home.

There were no cases of Food Poisoning or Erysipelas in the town for the year under review.

MEXBOROUGH U.D.C.

Infectious Diseases (Corrected) 1956

Age Distribution (After Correction)

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Cases Corrected	Cases After Correction	Under 1 yr.	1 - 4 yrs.	5 - 9 yrs.	10 - 14 yrs.	15 - 19 yrs.	20 - 24 yrs.	25 - 29 yrs.	30 - 34 yrs.	35 - 39 yrs.	40 - 44 yrs.	45 - 49 yrs.	50 and over	Adm. to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	75	75	1	2	2	6	11	32	17	2	2	—	—	—	—	61	—
Whooping Cough	41	41	3	5	7	4	7	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	42	42	1	2	3	2	4	24	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	50	50	5	4	8	1	3	16	3	3	3	2	2	3	—	—	—
Meningococcal Inf.	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	20	20	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	7	8	5	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	233	233	10	13	21	13	26	88	26	7	9	11	9	76	5	—	—

Tuberculosis

13 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. The total of 14 notifications was the same as in 1955 except that last year there were 11 cases of Pulmonary and 3 of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The Pulmonary Tuberculosis case incidence rate was 0·69 per thousand of the estimated resident population. Of the male cases which were notified, 4 were in the 26 to 45 age group, whilst in respect of females, 4 were notified in the 6 to 25 age group.

2 deaths, both males, were recorded from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and the death rate of 0·11 per thousand estimated resident population is the lowest on record, and is only one third of the average Pulmonary Tuberculosis death rate for the previous 5 years, and about a quarter of the average for the previous 5 year period.

At the 31st December, 1956, the following number of cases were on the Tuberculosis Register for the Mexborough Urban District :—

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Males	60	4
Females	53	7
TOTAL	113	11

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY FOR 1956

New Cases

Deaths

Age Groups	Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pul.		Non-Pul.		
	Years	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
6-15	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-25	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
26-35	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
36-45	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46-55	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
56-65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
66 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	7	6	1	—	2	—	1	—

